

## **CHAPTER IX**

### **DEFINITIONS**

**900-A**

#### **900.1 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PERMIT POLICY**

**A group of public and private agencies and organizations involved with the trucking industry that have been formed to advise the Department of Transportation on proposed Transportation Permit Policy and Policy changes. The agencies on the Committee are:**

**California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)  
Associated General Contractors (AGC)  
California Groundwater Association  
California Highway Patrol (CHP)  
Authorized California Permit Services  
California State Automobile Association (CSAA)  
California Trucking Association (CTA)  
California Land Improvement Contractors of America (CAL-LICA)  
County Supervisors Association of CA (CSAC)  
Crane Owners' Association  
Highway Carriers Association (HCA)  
League of California Cities  
Prestressed Concrete Manufacturers  
Southern California Contractors Association (SCCA)  
California Manufactured Housing Institute (CMHI)  
Concrete Pumpers Association, Northern California**

#### **AIR-RIDE SUSPENSION**

**An axle suspension system using air bags to provide equal distribution of weight to each axle in a group.**

#### **ANNUAL PERMIT**

**A written permit for the operation or movement of vehicles and/or combination of vehicles of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum legal dimensions specified in the vehicle code over described routes, within described geographic limits and within specified hours of operations and movement. Annual Permits are issued for 12-month periods commencing on the date of issuance.**

## **APPEALS**

A petition for a rehearing for those permittees who dispute the basis for restriction or suspension of permit privileges or for denial of a permit.

### **900.5 APPLICATION**

A written request for a permit for the movement of those vehicles and/or loads that are extralegal in size and weight and are nonreducible.

### **900.6 AXLE**

An axle is a structure consisting of one or more shafts, spindles or bearings in the same vertical plane by which, in conjunction with the wheels mounted on the axle, a portion of the weight of a vehicle and its load is continuously transmitted to the roadway.

#### **AXLE (BOOSTER)**

A Booster Axle is an axle generally having an air or hydraulic cylinder suspension system that can be actuated independently to assume a portion of the load that would otherwise be carried by adjacent axles. (NOT PERMITTED IN CALIFORNIA)

#### **AXLE CAPACITY**

The predetermined designed maximum load capacity.

### **900.9 AXLE (JOEDOG)**

See AXLE (BOOSTER) (NOT PERMITTED IN CALIFORNIA)

### **900.10 AXLE (SINGLE)**

An axle that has an axle spacing of no less than 8 feet from any other axle. Two axles with a spacing less than 42 inches are considered a single axle.

### **900.11 AXLE SPACING**

Axle spacing is the distance from the center of the axle in one vertical plane to the center of the axle in another vertical plane.

### **900.12 AXLE (TAG)**

See AXLE (BOOSTER) (NOT PERMITTED IN CALIFORNIA)

### **900.13 AXLE (TANDEM)**

Tandem axles that have a minimum spacing of 42 inches and a maximum spacing of 8 feet.

### **900.14 AXLE WIDTH**

Axle width is the maximum distance from the outside of the tire on one end of an axle to the outside of the tire on the other end of the same axle. The measurement shall be to the normal upper bulge of the tire. Measurement shall not include load induced tire bulge.

## **901-B**

### **BASE DISTRICT**

The District assigned to a transporter where the primary compliance with permit conditions will be monitored.

### **901.2 BEAM AND DOLLY HAULING EQUIPMENT**

A combination of structural beams and dollies that when assembled forms a train of vehicles used for transporting a load suspended between the beams.

### **BOAT TRAILER**

A trailer specifically designed for the movement of boats.

### **BONUS WEIGHT**

Additional weight allowed when the number of tires per axle is increased from four to eight on the same axles of an axle group. Additional weight will be allowed when the axle width is increased to a minimum dimension of 10'-0" and is equipped with eight (8) tires per axle.

### **BOOM DOLLY**

The vehicle detached from the crane that is attached to the boom of a crane for the purpose of supporting a portion of the boom weight when moving the crane over the roadways.

### **901.6 BRIDGE STRUCTURES**

Structures with designated load carrying capacity designed for carrying vehicles or combination of vehicles over natural obstacles or other roadways.

## **902-C**

**902.1 CALTRANS**

**The California Department of Transportation. (See Department)**

**902.2 CLOSE COUPLING OF AXLES**

**A situation that occurs when two groups of axles are so close that three consecutive axles in the two groups are 18'0" or less when measured from the first to the third successive axles.**

**COMPLIANCE PROGRAM**

**A uniform basis for restricting or suspending permit privileges of an individual, a crane or a company to encourage full compliance with the permit program.**

**902.4 CONCRETE PUMP**

**A vehicle or vehicle combination specifically designed for use in the placement of concrete in various forms of construction. It is considered a fixed load vehicle or combination of vehicles.**

**902.5 COUNTERWEIGHTS**

**Any weight used to counter balance loads lifted by a truck crane.**

**902.6 CURFEW AREA**

**A designated area within the metropolitan Districts in which movement of permit vehicles and/or loads in excess of 10'-0" in width is not permitted within specified morning and afternoon peak traffic periods.**

**902.7 CURFEW MAP**

**A map showing the curfew area, the routes affected and listing the restricted peak demand periods.**

**903-D**

**DEPARTMENT**

**"Department" means California Department of Transportation unless otherwise stated.**

## **DIRECT CROSSING PERMIT (CVC4006)**

**A permit for the crossing of highways from one side to another by nonregistered vehicles used in the normal conduct of the permittees business. If extralegal dimensions or weight exist, the normal application of the permit program shall apply.**

## **DISTRICT**

**One of twelve geographical subdivisions of the Department of Transportation.**

## **DOLLY**

**A vehicle designed for supporting a portion of a load.**

### **903.5 DOLLY - STEERING**

**A dolly in which an axle supporting a portion of the load is designed to turn to accommodate turning movements of a load.**

## **DOUBLES**

**A combination of vehicles coupled together, including any attachments thereto, which consists of a truck tractor, a semitrailer, and a trailer. (Not normally used in the permit program)**

### **903.7 DRILLING RIG**

**A vehicle or combination of vehicles specifically designed for drilling purposes.**

### **903.8 DUAL TIRES**

**A set of two independently mounted tires on one end of an axle.**

## **904-E**

### **904.1 EMERGENCY**

**A condition which poses an imminent threat of loss of property or a hazard to life.**

### **904.2 EXPANDABLE EQUIPMENT**

**A vehicle that has the capability to expand its width.**

## **EXTRALEGAL LOAD**

Any load which due to its design, cannot be reasonably reduced in size or weight so it can be legally transported as a load without a permit.

**905-F**

## **FACSIMILE AGREEMENT**

An agreement between the Department and a sending and/or receiving station authorizing facsimile transmittal and/or receipt of transportation permits.

**905.2 FACSIMILE PERMIT**

A transportation permit transmitted by a facsimile (FAX) machine valid only when properly sealed, signed and all attachments affixed thereto.

**905.3 FIFTH WHEEL**

See KINGPIN

## **FIXED IN LINE AXLES**

Axles in separate vertical planes mounted to the same structural frame member and that do not have steering capability.

**905.5 FIXED LOAD**

A vehicle or combination of vehicles which has been manufactured for a specific purpose and not for use in transporting loads. (Does not include construction equipment or other similar vehicles designed for off road use.)

## **FOOT PIN**

That point at which the boom of a crane connects to the upper works (crane house) and provides the vertical axis for the crane boom articulation.

**905.7 FORMULA B**

A formula used to calculate weight for an axle group or bridges of two or more groups of axles.

**906-G**

## **GLAD-HANDS**

A quick connect/disconnect coupling for use in joining two air lines.

## **GOOSENECK**

The part of a semitrailer that contains the kingpin and attaches to the tractor or to the forward and/or rear units in the combination.

### **907-H**

## **HAZARDOUS MATERIAL**

Any material, substance, or device posing a risk to health, safety or property during transportation.

### **907.2 HCD DECAL**

The license authorizing transporters, dealers and manufacturers to move manufactured homes in California.

## **HEIGHT**

The height of a vehicle and/or load as determined from a measurement from the roadway surface to the highest point on the vehicle or load.

### **907.4 HEIGHT POLE**

A nondestructive device used to check vertical clearances.

## **HOUSE MOVE**

The transporting of a house over conventional State highways.

## **HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (HCD)**

The State Department that issues Transportation Decals which is a requirement for the movement of Manufactured Homes as it relates to the transportation permit program.

### **908-I**

## **IMPLEMENT OF HUSBANDRY**

A vehicle which is used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations and conforms to Sections 36000 or 36005 of the California Vehicle Code.

### **908.2 INTEGRAL STRUCTURAL MATERIAL**

(See CVC 35414)

## **JEEP**

**A multi-axle short wheelbase auxiliary dolly used to distribute weight between a truck tractor and the load carrying semitrailer.**

## **KINGPIN DIMENSION**

**The measured distance from the centerline of the kingpin to the centerline of the rear axle of the semitrailer.**

## **LAST HARD METAL**

**The point furthest to the front, rear or side of any vehicle or load at which a measurement is taken.**

## **LEGAL**

**In conformance with or permitted by law.**

### **911.3 LENGTH (OVERALL)**

**The distance measured from the fore-most point of the vehicle or load to the rearmost point of the vehicle or load.**

### **911.4 LIABILITY**

**Being responsible for actions or inactions required by permit conditions or law.**

### **911.5 LOAD**

**A nonreducible extralegal item authorized movement under a transportation permit. It may include other related items.**

## **LOWBOY**

**A semitrailer that has been designed with a measurable drop from the gooseneck to the carrying deck.**



## **912-M**

### **912.1 MECHANICAL DISTRIBUTION UNIT**

**A mechanical device equivalent to a simple beam which proportionately distributes a load between a group of axles.**

### **912.2 MILITARY CERTIFICATION**

**Certification from the individual military services, the Department of Defense (DOD), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) or the Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC) that an extralegal load is essential to the national defense and should be permitted movement to reach its destination in a time frame consistent with need.**

#### **MILITARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COMMAND (MTMC)**

**The national organization that certifies the movement of a military load by commercial transporters.**

### **912.4 MIXED SUSPENSION**

**A suspension system that mixes suspension types within an axle group. (NOT PERMITTED IN CALIFORNIA.)**

## **913-N**

## **914-O**

### **914.1 OUTRIGGERS**

**Those elements of a crane used to provide stability to the crane body by use of extensions supported by the surrounding ground or pavement. Retractable extensions added to the side of a semitrailer that extends the width of its load carrying deck.**

#### **OVERHANG**

**That portion of a load that extends beyond the front bumper of a vehicle or beyond the foremost part of the front tires of the vehicle if not equipped with a front bumper. If overhang is to the rear, distance is measured from the last point of support.**

#### **OVERHEIGHT**

**That amount of height that exceeds the allowed, either by statute or permit.**

#### **914.4 OVERLENGTH**

That amount of overall length that exceeds the allowed either by statute or permit.

#### **OVERWEIGHT**

That amount of the gross weight or axle group weight that exceeds the allowed either by statute or permit.

#### **914.6 OVERWIDTH**

That amount of width that exceeds the allowed, either by statute or permit.

#### **PERMIT**

Written document from the State Department of Transportation authorizing the movement on specified highways of an extralegal vehicle or load.

#### **PERMIT PRIVILEGE SUSPENSION**

Suspension of transportation permit privileges for a specific time period when a permittee demonstrates the lack of ability to conform to permit requirements.

#### **915.3 PERMIT SERVICE**

A private business authorized to obtain permits for trucking companies and transmit them to an authorized receiving station.

#### **PERMIT WEIGHT**

That weight stated on the permit issued.

#### **915.5 PILOT CAR**

A motor vehicle (except a motorcycle, motorized bicycle, or motorized quadricycle) that is used to escort one or more other vehicles when required, due to the vehicle's size or character of load, in accordance with conditions set forth in a permit issued by the appropriate State agency or by a local authority.

#### **POINT SYSTEM**

See Compliance System.

**916-Q**

**916.1 QUICK DISCONNECT**

**A manual hose connection which can be disconnected rapidly.**

**917-R**

**RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS**

**Those materials exhibiting radioactivity which may be hazardous.**

**917.2 RADIUS (75 & 100 MILE)**

**A radius from the permittees base of operation or state border granted under an annual permit. Purple weight annuals for truck cranes and fixed loads are limited to a 75-mile radius while green weight is allowed 100 miles.**

**REDUCIBLE LOAD**

**A load that can be reasonably reduced in size or weight by removal of elements or part of the load.**

**917.4 RELATED PARTS (of a load)**

**Parts of a load that are essential to the operation of the load being hauled.**

**917.5 REPETITIVE PERMIT**

**A permit issued by the Department for an unlimited number of loads and/or vehicles moving between predetermined locations for a prescribed period of time (6 months maximum).**

**917.6 RESTRICTED HOLIDAYS**

**Those legal holidays for which permit movement is not authorized.**

**917.7 RIDER**

**An attachment to an original transportation permit modifying specific elements of the original permit.**

**917.8 ROUGH-TERRAIN CRANE**

**A crane used for construction purposes and only incidentally operated or moved over the highway. (Also known as All-Terrain Crane)**

**917.9 ROUTE CLEARANCE**

Approval of the route by the Department at the time extralegal loads are to be transported.

**918-S**

**918.1 SELF STEERING VEHICLE**

A vehicle with the ability to follow substantially in the wheel path of the power unit which is activated by pneumatic, hydraulic or mechanical devices.

**918.2 SEMI TRAILER**

A vehicle designed for carrying persons or property, used in conjunction with a motor vehicle, and so constructed that some part of the weight of the semitrailer and its load weight rests upon the towing vehicle.

**918.3 SHEAVE PIN**

For the purpose of boom length measurements, the "sheave pin" is the sheave at the end of the boom used to run the working cable on and off the cable drum.

**918.4 SHOULDER**

That portion of the roadway on either side of and adjacent to the traveled way, used for emergency stops.

**918.5 SINGLE-TRIP PERMIT**

The written authority for the movement of vehicles, combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight exceeding the maximum legal dimensions or weight specified in the California Vehicle Code.

**918.6 SLIDER**

A semitrailer with sliding axles that can be moved forward or back to modify load distribution and the kingpin to rear axle dimension.

**918.7 SPRING SUSPENSION**

An axle suspension system made up of steel leaf springs.

## **918.8 STRUCTURAL SECTION**

The roadway structure which typically includes the sub-base, base and surface (concrete or asphalt concrete).

## **919-T**

### **919.1 TACTICAL MILITARY VEHICLES**

Military vehicles designed and operated exclusively by the military for military purposes.

#### **TIRE CAPACITY**

The recommended load at a specified PSI and speed which a tire may carry according to the manufacturer's specification. The tires are identified as to their use as a single tire or in a dual tire situation.

#### **TIRE SIZE**

A numerical or alpha identifier given to a tire that corresponds to the manufacturer's load-carrying capacity.

### **919.4 TORSION BAR SUSPENSION SYSTEM**

Suspension system in which vertical movement of the wheels is restrained by use of a torsion bar connected to each wheel via the frame.

#### **TOW TRUCK**

A motor vehicle which has been altered or designed and equipped for and exclusively used in the business of towing vehicles by means of a crane, hoist, towline, or dolly or is otherwise exclusively used to render assistance to other vehicles.

### **919.6 TRAILER-DOUBLE DROP**

A semitrailer where the load-carrying portion is below the axles and kingpin.

#### **TRAILER (EXPANDABLE)**

A semitrailer in which the width dimension of its running gear can be increased.

#### **TRAILER-SINGLE DROP**

A trailer or semitrailer where the load-carrying portion is below the kingpin and above rear axles.

**919.9 TRAILER (STRETCH)**

A trailer or semitrailer capable of increasing the length of its load deck.

**919.10 TRANSPORTER**

One who transports a load on a vehicle from one place to another. (The permittee)

**919.11 TRAVELED WAY**

That paved portion of the roadway exclusive of shoulders and auxiliary lanes.

**919.12 TRIDEM**

Three axles having a common suspension system that equally and equitably divides the weight in its axle group.

**919.13 TRUCK CRANE**

An extralegal self-propelled device used for lifting loads.

**919.14 TRUCK CRANE BOOM LENGTH**

The length of the crane boom measured from the centerline of the upper works rotation to the last hard metal. For lattice type booms, the length may be measured from the "footpin" to the Sheave pin".

**919.15 TRUCK CRANE CARRIER**

The vehicle or part of a mobile crane excluding upper works.

**919.16 TRUCK CRANE UPPER WORKS**

That part of the mobile crane above the crane carrier deck including the house and boom.

**919.17 TRUCK TRACTOR**

A motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load so drawn.

## **920-U**

### **920.1 UNLADEN**

**Those vehicles carrying no load.**

#### **UNLADEN ANNUAL PERMIT**

**Those annual permits authorizing the movement of extralegal vehicles carrying no load.**

## **921-V**

### **921.1 VARIANCE**

**The authorization by Headquarters Permit office for a District Permit office to issue a permit for movement of a vehicle or load exceeding normal permit policy.**

### **921.2 VEHICLE INSPECTION**

**An inspection by the Department of Transportation to determine that a vehicle or vehicle combination meets the requirements of the permit program.**

## **922-W**

### **922.1 WEATHER (INCLEMENT)**

**Foggy, rainy, or windy weather that restricts visibility to less than 1,000 feet. Movement is prohibited during these conditions and when road surfaces are hazardous due to rain, ice, snow or frost, or when use of tire chains is mandatory. No moving shall be done when the velocity of the wind is such that it causes the vehicle being towed to whip or swerve from side to side or fail to follow substantially in the path of the towing vehicle.**

#### **WEIGHT (LEGAL)**

**Maximum allowable total weight, weight per axle, weight for a group of axles or wheel weight as allowed by the California Vehicle Code.**

### **922.3 WEIGHT TRANSFER**

**A portion of the crane weight that can be transferred between groups of axles.**

**922.4 WIDTH**

**The total outside width of any vehicle or load at its widest dimension excluding any load induced tire bulge.**

**923-X**

**924-Y**

**924.1 YARDER**

**A piece of equipment with or without running gear used to move cut trees from otherwise inaccessible locations.**

**925-Z**